

**ADAIR COUNTY GENEROSITY** 

## "Love thy neighbor as thyself."

"Love thy neighbor as thyself' was in full display on April 1 at the Adair **County Fair Exhibition** Hall. In a fund-raising event organized by District 1 Commissioner Charles Boecher and his wife Tarra, a throng of folks from all around Adair County streamed into the building and poured out their hearts in generous giving for one of its neighbors. Arthur "Red" Ross was the beneficiary of this outpouring of love. He needed help with some medical expenses.

Without disclosing the exact amount that was raised that night, an "avalanche of dough" would be one way to describe it. For \$10 each at the door, each guest was treated to a yummy Indian taco meal. Three bands provided some good ol' gospel music. Arthur gave us a sample of his singing prowess with a litany of songs. Chandler Trentham, decked out in snazzy Cowboy style, capped the evening as the auctioneer for a myriad of pies, cakes and cookies

Commentary by John Bankel

for the "pie auction." He came to the microphone and announced that he was training to be a professional auctioneer so this was "practice time." He did a commendable job as he moved the auction along. The bidding was vigorous with one cake going for better than \$500! At the end of the night, everyone who came was the beneficiary of a good time and Arthur "Red" Ross was blessed to the max with true Adair County Generosity.



L-R: Tarra Boecher, Arthur "Red" Ross, Dist. 1 Commissioner Charles Boecher

You Are Invited To Customer Appreciation Day: APRIL 27TH All Day at the Stomping Grounds CAKERY 6TH ANNIVERSARY Come on by and celebrate with owner Lisa Bailey.

### Plus a drawing for \$600 worth of gift cards.

Stop by and throw your name into the hat

## Adair County Republican Party Meeting At The Depot Commentary by John Bankel

On Monday, April 17, at 6:30 pm, the Adair County Republican Party met at the Kansas City Southern-Canadian Pacific Depot in Stilwell. The turnout was excellent. One of the features of the evening was a comprehensive summary, given by Treasurer Gail Stice, of the work being done by the Republican State Platform Committee, a committee for which Gail was chosen as chairman. It was because of the Committee's work that a Bill proposed both in the State House and Senate which, if it had passed, would have allowed illegal aliens to vote. The Bill had already cleared committees and was ready to go to the floor, when the Legislators got wind of the Platform showing that this Bill would contravene the Platform tenets. The Bill eventually died saving some face. Nancy Garrett, who is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, brought up the

need for sponsorships for the upcoming American Legion Girls State event. The American Legion picks 4 High School Juniors, both boys and girls, to participate in a week long event in which the students learn the inside workings of local and state government. The students get to play actual roles such as mayor, state senator and representative, governor etc., all in mock real-life settings. It turned out that the 4 girls had already been sponsored. Unfortunately, the names of the girls were not given. Suffice it to say, that the participants learn a lot and may be inspired to seek office someday or work within the government. On a final note, having talked about Girls and Boys State, a point was made about political influencing. Jim Spray, City Councilman, brought up the fact that the Democrats are paying people to go out and solicit for voters in upcom-

ing elections. He said they are called "paid influencers" and are targeting the 18-29 demographic. This prompted someone to remark that the Adair County Republican Party is in need of young people to join up. For the time being, the Republican Party has the upper hand in Adair County politics but that is always subject to change. Resting on our laurels is not an option. The Roving **Reporter... in and** out and roundabout Stilwell...



Roof ribs are in place at Stilwell City Hall building site...stay tuned for more Roving Reporter updates... or use facebook.

Located at the Strip Mall just north of Walmart. See you there!

#### **PROVERB POWER**

John 16:33 KJV

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In this world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

> The Straight Forward FREE Press is now ONLINE on Google! www.straightforwardfreepress.com Check it out and enjoy!

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## They Risked It All/It's the Truth **MEMORIES OF FARM AND FAMILY**

Number 21

By Donna Boecher

Living year 'round in Zion, I've experienced Spring many times; the forsythia and flowering quince bloom, and the red bud trees color the woods in preparation for the glorious dogwood blossoms which sprinkle the woods in creamy white. On the heels of these events, the "catkins" from the oaks hang down like green fringe. They are the male

female oaks, so they can produce acorns. I've lived 3/4 of a century among massive, towering oaks and never realized they were "sexed." Okay, okay! I'm not a farmer! However, I give my parents and grandparents a thumbs-down for not cluing me in. Or maybe, living in the city, they raked up the acorns before I realized the connection.

flowers releasing pollen to I know about fruit trees many are self-pollinating. I presumed too much. Now I realize that there is one female oak in my front yard. How do I know? Our "yard guard" pig eats the acorns. The huge centuryold oak by my gate is male. As I write, he is dropping his "catkins. God loves to hear us chuckle when we learn something new!



Cole Kimble has earned a basketball scholarship to play for Tabor College, a small private NAIA school of Hillsboro, Kansas. Tabor competes in the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference. After a stellar Stilwell High School career, Cole is **Congratulations Cole!** sure to continue with success at the next level.







Dear John,

This is to all the guys out there looking for a great deal. My husband has been a tractor collector for many years. He has too many. My friend asked him how many he had, and he said, "Not enough". When people come to see his collection he will tell them the serial number, year he bought it and the year it was made. When I ask him what my birthday is he can't remember. He has given me several tractors throughout the years. I don't remember what tractor goes with what holiday. Guys come to our house looking for a "great deal". My husband is looking for what the tractors are worth and is not interested in making a deal. It's kind of funny if you ask me, but it isn't funny to him. He can't go anywhere because someone needs to take care of his tractors. I go on vacations alone and he stays home with his old iron babies. Do you think that I should stay home too?

#### Allis Chalmers

Dear Allis...men have a penchant for excluding women from their man stuff. Your husband has built himself a fortress into which he can recede anytime he likes. It is easy to assume he is trying to shut you out, but he is just being a man. As far as going on vacation without him, perhaps it is best for both of you to take a break from each other. For you it can be a time of reflection and renewal for your soul's sake. For him, it will be just more time spent with his "iron babies." They are what makes him tick. Remember, it could be a lot worse.

#### Sincerely,

#### Dear John

Have you got a question for Dear John? email: dearjohn@writeme.com Real Name Not Used. Copyright 2023, All Rights Reserved.



Truth is Our Target P.O. Box 885 • Stilwell, OK 74960 straightforwardpress21@gmail.com

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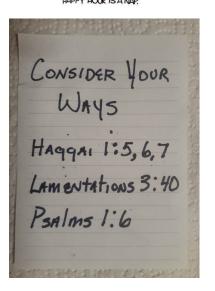
Donna Boecher	Editor
John Bankel	Co-Editor/Journalist
Stephanie Cullinane	Ćomposer

PROVERBS 29:2-"When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn."

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### THE KIPLING KORNER

"Ellum she hateth mankind, and waiteth Till every gust be laid, To drop a limb on the head of him That anyway trusts her shade: But whether a lad be sober or sad, Or mellow with ale from the horn, He will take no wrong when he lieth along 'Neath Oak, and Ash, and Thorn!"

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Stilwell will have 4 Lady Indians joining the 2023 Inaugural team at Connors State College this Fall.



Week 3 of 6

Hello all you Krypto Kontest fans! Week 3 is here. There is still plenty of time to get in on this iteration of the Kontest and win the \$25 Cash and Calculator prize. So, while you are resting and wondering what to do, why not get your pencil and paper out and fiddle with these numbers: The answer is: 18 and you are playing with 2, 9, 12, 5, 23. Remember, you must use all 5 numbers and any combination of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division to write an expression that equals the answer. Give it a shot and have some Krypto fun! You can submit your answer by email to: themathguy@usa.com or snail mail to: Krypto Kontest POB 885 Stiwell, OK 74960.





Bob loved the outdoors. Wound up with quite a collection.

**Vocabulary Word:** edge. A thin, sharpened side or area farthest away from middle.

Ex. The teacher set me at the edge of her desk so she could see me.

### THE CONSERVATIVE VIEW By Russell Turner DISTRACTIONS AND MORE DISTRACTIONS

Ever since the circus started about the Donald Trump indictment, there has been very little reporting on any other subject. The case of the Nashville shooter has been totally ignored and we haven't heard so much as a peep about the recent bank failures. In the case of the bank failures, I feel that we are not out of the woods yet about our banking sector. Many people don't worry about their bank accounts, because our accounts are insured by the FDIC for 250k on each account. In a recent article I read that the FDIC just used their entire insurance fund of some \$150 billion on the first two failed banks. There is little to nothing left for the next failures, which are sure to come. It would be the same if you had your car insured at your local insurance company, and in the event you needed your insurance, then come to find out the insurance company was broke and you would be left holding the bag.

Here in America, there are roughly \$9.6 trillion in U.S. insured deposits. In the event of a major economic



collapse the FDIC does not have the funds to back up all of those insured accounts. The only option would be for the government to come up with some kind of bailout, but a bailout from the government could come at a very high cost. Across the world many governments are implementing a digital currency system, in our country the liberal elites are also pushing for such a system here in our country. In such a system any transaction would be tracked and taxed. I guess I come from the old school, I always felt secure having a few cash dollars in my pocket. If I wanted to buy some home grown tomatoes from my neighbor's garden I could do it without the government being involved.

I am not ready for the government to become more involved in our financial system. it seems to me that their cure for all ailments is just to print more money, right now our brilliant government has put us in the red for over 31 trillion dollars. More money in the system has caused all of the inflation that we are currently having to deal with, more spending will make it much worse instead of better. This inflation problem is not just a problem for the United States, it is causing problems across the globe. The pundits and the elites like to throw numbers at us while reassuring us that everything is just fine, but if they calculated the inflation rate like it was done in the 1970's our true rate would be 10-12%.

One of the founding fathers once said that the price of freedom is eternal vigilance, if there was ever a time that proved that point it is today. We all need to keep our eyes on the economy and the banking sector, we do not need our government taking over the banking system and implementing something like the digital dollar. I do believe that there are those who would welcome a banking meltdown so that they could have more control over the American people with digital currency. My recommendation is simple, don't allow yourself to become too distracted.

## STILWELL SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Commentary by John Bankel

### SPRING SPORTS UPDATE

Spring sports consist of a Boys Baseball, Girls Slow t Pitch Softball, Boys and Girls Soccer and Track. In this column we highlight some of the more recent accomplishments of our Stilwell Spring Athletes.

moved up to #6. The track team enjoys a #12 ranking. 4 girls soccer players have committed to playing at the next level for Connors State Community College in Warner in that college's inaugural girls soccer sea-

play at private NAIA Tabor College of Hillsboro, Kansas. All the seasons are coming to a close in the next few weeks. Girls Slow pitch looks to advance in the State Tournament. Stay tuned for further updates.



Ephesians 3:21-22

20 ¶ Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abun-

dantly above all that we ask or think, according to the

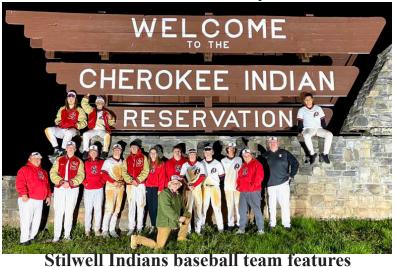
power that worketh in us,

21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus

throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

#### **SCRIPTURE**

Scripture sponsored by: **Faith Tabernacle** Corner of Hwy. 51 & Piney Road Stilwell, OK In the most recent State son. Cole Kimble earned rankings, the Softball team a basketball scholarship to



Cherokee syllabary on uniforms

# ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

COMMENTARY BY JOHN BANKEL

### **Today's Trail Treks To The Lowly Pencil**

The other day, as I was walking past the planter in front of the Stilwell Library. I noticed a pencil lying on top of its dirt. It looked like a fairly new pencil. It had a point and an eraser that was a bit worn. I picked it up and got to thinking about "the that making a pencil is Pencil"? It is quite a remarkable instrument. One of my recollections of pencils is about the ones that time actual lead was used. some of my grade school classmates loved to chew on. I never did. I did try it once or twice. They tasted awful and I really never got hungry enough to enjoy one. The eraser was another component that often got chewed. I did not chew erasers. I always thought the eraser was more valuable than the lead. The lead is what I used to make mistakes. The eraser was there to come to my rescue. I got to thinking about all the monumental writings that can be credited to the pencil. The old saying is: "The pen is mightier than the sword." In this saying "pen" is short for "pencil." Kingdoms have been set up and taken down by the written word, not to mention all of the draw-

ings that were done in Yet the pencil pencil? that we know today is a fairly recent invention. As a matter of fact, even though the pencil is often tossed aside with impunity, (like the one in the planter), yet it turns out not a simple task. Start with the lead. The lead is graphite, although at one ("plumbum" is the Latin word for "lead"; hence the symbol Pb on the periodic table and from which the "plumber"comes name since the old time water and drain pipes were made from lead). Kids would put the tip in their mouths and their tongues would turn blue-green and get sick, sometimes to death. In those days, paint also had lead in it and many a child perished from eating this paint. Graphite is harmless. The wood is special also. The little metal ferulle, upon which the eraser sits, is special. And the rubber for the eraser comes from far off places like Sumatra or Borneo. And then all of those constituents have to end up in one place: the Pencil Factory, where God

only knows how many pencils are produced annually? Or imagine how many pencils have been produced since their inception and how many have been carelessly discarded without thought as to their real value. I am a retired Math teacher. I would insist my students use a pencil, preferably with a BIG eraser. I surely always needed one. Today the pencil is still very much around and surprisingly still costs very little. It could well be the best deal in town. Next time you pick up a pencil, treat it as a valuable friend. And try not to chew it!

Today's Trail has come to an end. Perhaps we shall meet again around the bend my friend. Meanwhile, may your Trail end up on the right side of the fence. Vaya Con Dios!

John Bankel is a freelance journalist and a retired High School Math teacher who can be reached at: writewright@journalist. com

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## WHAT'S SO PUNNY? **PUN FUN**

Anytime is PUN time. Nothing like a good turn of phrase to light up the malaise of one's days. That is what puns are for. So, just in case you are feeling some doldrums and humdrums of everyday life, here is a bouquet of puns for you. Get your ribs and funny bone ready to be tickled.

1. One Way or Another: How do you make holy water? You boil the hell out of it. Or you can freeze it and drill holes into it?

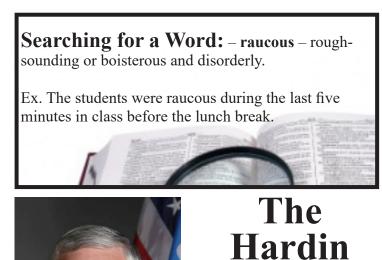
2. No Seconds: Did you hear about the new restaurant called Karma? There is no menu; you get what you deserve.

3. For All Intents And Purposes: When the Past, Present and Future go camping, they always argue. It is intense tense in tents. 4. Going Straight: A mean crook going down the stairs is a condescending con, descending. 5. Lost In Space: What did the astronaut say when he was interviewed? No comet...Puhleeeeze!

As the old saying goes: Laughter is the best medicine. Well now? Are you feeling a mite better? Might as well admit it. And while you are at it, come on back to What's So Punny? and have some more PUN FUN!



### **Stilwell Lady Indians** Soft Ball 2023 District Champs!



#### 2023 Class 5A Slow Pitch Week 4 OSSAARankings as of 4/17/2023

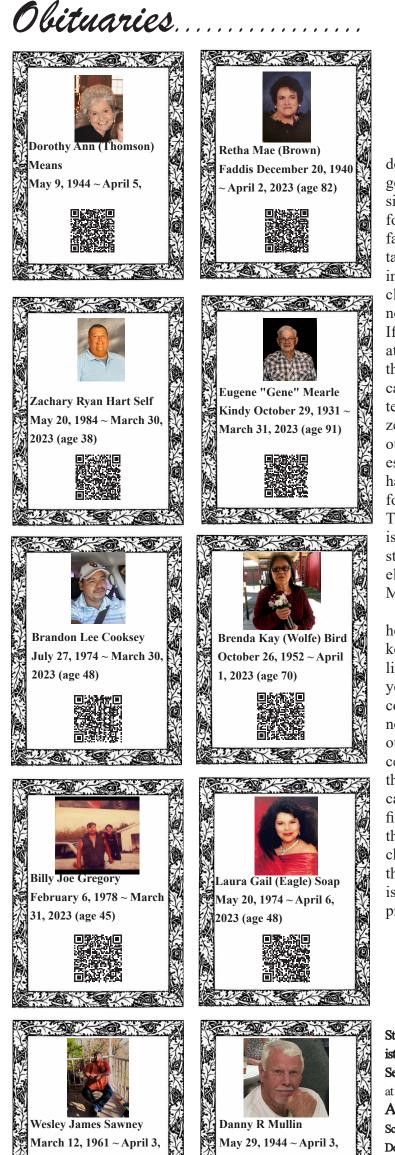
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Rank	School (#1 Rankings)	W-L	Points	
1	WASHINGTON (19)	32-3	320	
2	NORTH ROCK CREEK (1)	29-1	299	
3	TECUMSEH	22-7	285	
4	BROKEN BOW	19-9	255	
5	CACHE	21-6	238	
6	STILWELL	21-4	222	
7	PERKINS-TRYON	15-4	204	
8	BRISTOW	15-7	202	
9	CHANDLER	15-12	146	
10	DICKSON	11-5	105	
11	CUSHING	10-9	101	
12	<u>FT. GIBSON</u>	12-8	98	
13	PLAINVIEW	14-9	92	
14	MULDROW	11-6	79	
15	EUFAULA	18-7	76	
16	SULPHUR	13-6	64	





## Report

QR for the weekly Legislative Update 4/04/2023. I'm honored to serve the great people of House District 86. Please feel free to call me with any questions, concerns, or to discuss issues. The best way to reach me is to either call or text me on my cell phone, 918-507-2811 or call my office at 405-557-7394.



### THE CONSERVATIVE VIEW By Russell Turner **GETTING PRIORITIES STRAIGHT**

In any business or endeavor you have to set goals, and it is a necessity to set priorities and to follow up on them. It is a fact that if you open a retail store of any kind it is imperative to set the alarm clock and be at the business before opening time. If you run a ranching operation, it is also imperative that you make sure your cattle are fed even if the temperature is 10 below zero. The same principles I outline above are also necessary for our country to have an effective fighting force to protect our nation. The Biden administration is leading our nation to destruction if we don't stop electing vicious, radical Marxists to represent us. It totally amazes me

how the American people keep falling for the same line of bulldust year after year. Our people have become accustomed to the next government handout instead of being concerned about the dangers that are growing like a cancer in the world. Our fighting force should be the most lethal killing machine in the world, instead the current administration is more concerned about promoting the new green

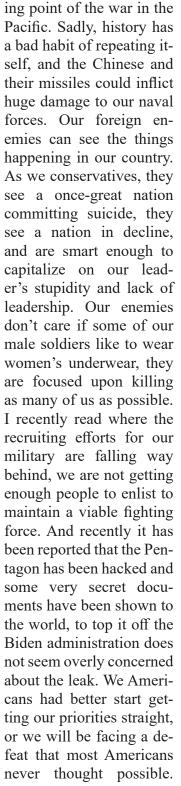
deal along with their perverted woke agenda. Anyone with half of a brain can see that the left is destroying our economy, also they are showing weakness on a world scale. Today we are witnessing the world's largest country allying themselves with the world's most populated country to form a dangerous force that is intent upon destroying our influence in the world. The Chinese are telling the whole world that they are ready to fight, and they are not just blowing smoke at us. The Chinese have the world's largest navy, and they have been pursuing the technology to develop hypersonic missiles. We Americans had better hope that our military has some defense against those weapons. For years our main source of power has been our fleet of aircraft carriers, without those carriers we will be at a huge disadvantage.

In World War 2 the Japanese had a huge fleet of aircraft carriers, and they were also a source of strength. In the battle of Midway we Americans got lucky and sank 4 of their top-of-the-line carriers, it was the turn-

*Community* Bulletin Board

Stilwell Community Choir, March 28, Tuesday 7 pm, First United Methodist Church. Info contact Mary Catherine 918-696-9061 Bethel Church Service: 1st Saturday of the month and last Saturday of the month, service at 5 p.m.-? Rodney Chuculate.

Adair County Litter-Free & Green Litter-Free & Green Recycle Day Schedule: April 15, May 20, June 17, July 15, Aug 18, Sept 16, Oct 21, Nov 18, Dec 16. Location: Behind Vonnie's Pawn Shop at 101 W. Walnut St, Stilwell OK.











3002

May 29, 1944 ~ April 3,

Hours: 9am to noon. For more info. contact Cathy at 696-1178 or Joyce at 696-7316

Flint Lodge Monthly Breakfast from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. the first Saturday of each Month. Flint Lodge is located at 83705 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell. 12 & Older: \$8.00, Children: \$4.00 and under 5 Free 10:00 Sunday Morning Service Bethal Church Everyone Welcome

'He's a Chihuahua/Great Dane mix





